



Fort Sam Houston

News Leader®



Vol. 35, No. 16

Fort Sam Houston — Home of Army Medicine

April 18, 2002

Briefs

Reminder.....

Spring clean up inspection of housing areas is scheduled for today and Friday, April 20.

SJA closed, April 18

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will close at noon on April 18 for annual spring clean up.

Any questions, please call OSJA, 221-0484.

End of Month Retirement, April 19

A consolidated end of month retirement ceremony will be held April 19 at 7:45 a.m. at MacArthur Field, corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley roads. The public is invited.

Youth Center Closure, April 20

The Youth Center will close early on Saturday, April 20 due to FSH Fiesta events. The center will open at 3 p.m. and close at 8 p.m. for all age groups.

BNOC Class 022 Graduation, April 30

The public is invited to the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Class 022 Graduation Ceremony April 30, 10 a.m. at Blesse Auditorium, Bldg. 2842 on Stanley Road.

Newcomer's Extravaganza, April 30

The Newcomer's Extravaganza will be held at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797 on Stanley Road, April 30, 9 to 10 a.m. Attendance is mandatory for permanent party in-processing soldiers in ranks of lieutenant colonel and below within 60 day of arrival at FSH.

Fort Sam Houston ISD Board Meeting, April 30

The Fort Sam Houston ISD Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting on April 30, 11 a.m., at the Fort Sam Houston ISD Professional Development Center, 1908 Winans Road.

Annual AER Fund Campaign through April 30

The Army Emergency Relief Fund Campaign continues through April 30. See your unit's project officer to donate.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Racing for a Cure

◀ Friends Heather Wilmot and Lizzie Martinez were among thousands of children who joined their parents to participate in the San Antonio 2002 Race for the Cure. The annual event raises funds for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Bush defends military budget request

Warns Sharon to withdraw from Palestinian territory without delay

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

President Bush defended his fiscal 2003 defense budget request and re-emphasized America's in the fight against terrorism for the long haul during a stop in Knoxville, Tenn. April 8.

Following a tour of a Citizens Police Academy, Bush also spoke shortly about U.S. expectations in the Middle East. He said he told Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon that the United States expects



leaders must condemn terrorism and terrorist activity.

"There is a mutual responsibility to achieve peace and it's going to require leadership on both sides, and the United States is firmly committed to achieving peace and ... I am firmly committed to

Israel to withdraw from Palestinian territory without delay. He also said that Arab nations and

what I expect from both parties," Bush said. "I repeat: I meant what I said about withdrawal without delay, and I mean what I say when I call upon the Arab world to strongly condemn and act against terrorist activities.

In a later speech, Bush said he came to the Volunteer State to tout volunteerism. He spoke about the all-volunteer military and the superb job service members are doing against terrorists and then spoke about the various Citizen Corps opportuni-

See *Bush* Page 3

Navajo students research history at FSH



Photo by Sgt. Don Thomas

By Master Sgt. Don Thomas
Special to the News Leader

Fourteen students from the Navajo Boarding School of the Pueblo Pintado Reservation in New Mexico, visited the Sam Houston Quadrangle April 10, as part of the school's educational incentive trip program.

The northwest New Mexico school, under the Bureau of Indian Affairs, enrolls 360 students between kindergarten and eighth grade. Periodically, the school sponsors a select group of those students on trips to different areas of the country to expose them to the world outside the reservation, according to school administrator, Ray Sisneros.

"We try to expose the kids to different aspects of society and areas they normally wouldn't travel to. We mostly visit components that are educational," said Sisneros, who teaches history and government

See *Students* Page 3

◀ Honor students from the Navajo Boarding School of the Pueblo Pinata Reservation in New Mexico feed pigeons during their visit to the Fort Sam Houston Quadrangle, April 10. The students learned about Geronimo's historic incarceration at the Quadrangle as well as career opportunities in today's Army.

Representative McClendon honors military nurses

By Edward Rivera
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

State Representative Ruth Jones McClendon honored former military nurses at a luncheon held in the Fort Sam Houston Officers' Club April 12. The event was held in cooperation with the Army Nurse Corps Association and the Society of Retired Air Force Nurses.

McClendon had been trying to arrange an event to honor women's contributions in the military. "There are many events honoring men and I wanted something for the ladies," she said at the luncheon. As the host of the luncheon, McClendon told the retired nurses who served from World War II to present time; the event would be held biennially.

"You have seen first hand the price our country has paid for its freedom, in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and many other conflicts. Our nation truly owes you their gratitude for a job well done," said McClendon.

See *McClendon* Page 3



Lee

A sharper view with Fiesta TechNet starting April 22

Americans' worldview changed last September. Fiesta TechNet 2002 will sharpen information technology professionals' understanding of their impact in protecting the United States.

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, its local Alamo Chapter and the Billy Mitchell Chapter of the Association of Old Crows will host the State's largest military and security oriented information technology conference and exposition during San Antonio's Fiesta Week.

The three day Fiesta TechNet 2002 held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center kicks off April 22 at 10 a.m. with the trade show's opening followed by the noon luncheon featuring retired Air Force General Robert T. Marsh, former Chairman of the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection, as the keynote speaker. A technical panel chaired by the Director of the National Security Agency, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Michael V. Hayden, on information operations and assurance follows.

Tuesday's keynote luncheon speaker will be Kem Clawson, Divisional Partnering Manager from EMC Corp. He will be followed by retired Air Force General Eugene E. Habiger, President and CEO of the San Antonio Water System and member of the Texas Homeland Security Task Force and Team Director for Threat Identification and Risk Assessment on Wednesday.

Panel topics on future information technology and homeland security are scheduled for the remaining days. These panels will be chaired by the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Dr. Anthony J. Tether, on Tuesday and a former Director of the National Security Agency, retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen Kenneth Minihan on Wednesday.

Fiesta TechNet will be historical in one aspect. The U.S. Air Force's Phoenix Challenge and Lackland Air Force Base's Air Intelligence Agency's (AIA) annual Information Assurance Conference will be held simultaneously with the AFCEA event

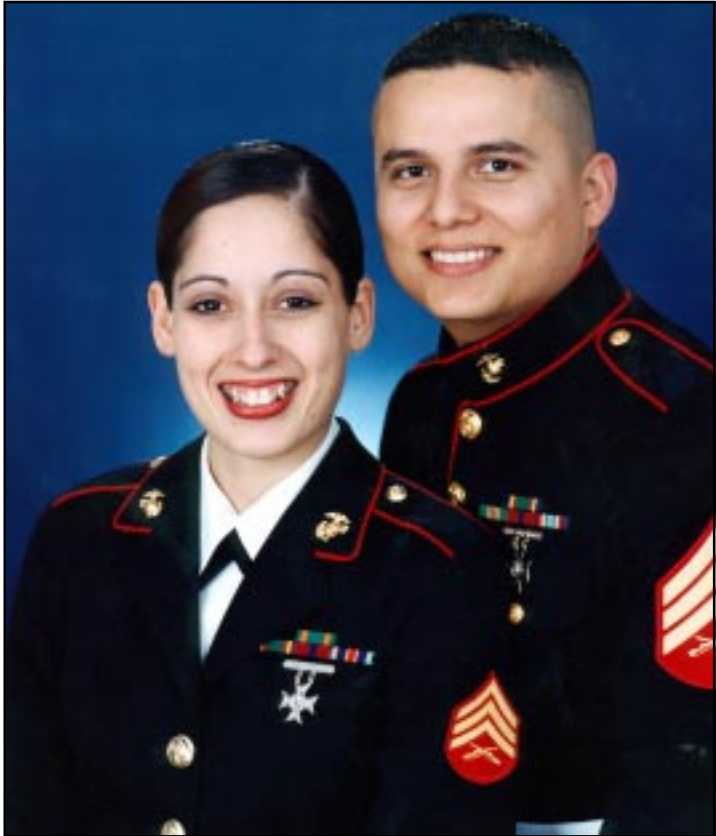
for the first time in their history. This special combination will make Fiesta TechNet one of the biggest events of its kind in the nation.

Phoenix Challenge is an Air Force Information Warfare Center and Department of Defense initiative to provide an open forum, working level environment for the Information Operations/Warfare community to come together and explore some of the most critical problems in the information operations/warfare arena. Attendees from the Department, federal government, industry and academia will share information and collaborate in identifying potential concepts and solutions (ideas and technologies). The Air Combat Command/AIA Information Assurance Conference is intended to provide training for information systems' security managers, officers, and administrators in the intelligence information systems communities.

The local impact goes beyond the attendance of over 1,000 high tech professionals. Proceeds support local scholarships for area students working toward science and engineering degrees. Over the last seven years, the AFCEA Alamo Chapter has awarded well over \$130,000 in scholarships to eligible students.

Information technology, intelligence or communications professionals working with any level or branch of government will benefit from their attendance. Attendees will hear leaders in government and industry discuss their current needs and/or solutions, gain a vision of how recent and future technological innovations can assist them, and experience the latest technology hands-on.

To learn more and register for the event, visit www.afcea.org/fiesta2002/default.asp. Fiesta TechNet's exhibits are open to the public free on all three days upon registering for the exhibits only.



Marine Ambassadors

▲ U. S. Marine Corps ambassadors, Sgt. Claudia Calvillo, Marine Corps Detachment, Lackland Air Force Base, and husband, Sgt. Mario Calvillo, Recruiting Station located on Fort Sam Houston, will be representing the Marine Corps at more than 60 Fiesta activities throughout San Antonio.

Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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Former military nurses honored for service to country



Photo by Edward Rivera

From **McClendon** Page 1

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was San Antonio community leader and noted artist Dr. Amy Freeman Lee. Lee told several stories to illustrate ideals that she said were missing today. "I want to talk about our loss of conscientiousness, our

loss of courtesy and our loss of champions," Lee said. "It doesn't take an astrophysicist to figure out it goes back to family."

Lee explained through humorous anecdotes how her grandmother influenced her as a youth to show compassion and

how to discern between acts that were heroic or not. She also learned later in her life about telling people, especially children that they are loved and appreciated.

Sponsors of the event for the retired nurses were Rodda Yates

Insurance, Reliant Energy, City Public Service, Boeing and Time Warner Cable.

"Like all veterans, you (military nurses) deserve honor and thanks for your service to your country," said McClendon. "This is but a small token of our gratitude."

Blood donations needed

Blood donations are needed year round. Soldiers involved in Operation Enduring Freedom are counting on us to be there for them.

If you make a fist now, we will give you a hand later. It is important to keep a steady flow of blood donors donating on a regular basis.

To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.

Bush: Price of freedom not too high

From **Bush** Page 1

Bush said the fiscal 2003 budget request reflects the nature of the conflict the United States is in. "I've asked for the largest increase in defense spending in 20 years not only because it will fulfill our commitment to support our troops, but because it recognizes that this country is in our war for the long pull — that we're interested in defending freedom no matter what the cost!" he said.

The United States, he said, would commit the resources needed to defend freedom worldwide. "I'm proud of the United States of America. I'm proud of our people. I'm proud of our resolve. I'm proud of the unity. I'm proud of the patience of the American people," he said.

"The American people know what I know: that we have been called into action, that history has given us a chance to lead, that ... we now understand that history's call is to lead our vast coalition against terrorists," he continued.

Bush said critics have said the defense budget request is too large. "Listen, the price of freedom is high. I understand that. But it's not too high as far as I'm concerned," he said. "This nation can show the world what we stand for, and we can show future generations what we're made out of."

Bush said the United States is making good progress in the war on terror. "We're hunting them down, and that's what has to happen," he said. "We're doing it in a way that sometimes doesn't make it in the newspapers." He said the government is going about the business of assaulting terrorism in a steady, deliberate and patient manner.

"There is no cave deep enough to hide from the arm of justice of the United States of America," he said.

Fifth Army's command sergeant major stresses fitness, education to students

From **Students** Page 1

at the school.

Besides educating the students, the trips also expose them to career opportunities, said Sisneros, who pointed out that unemployment on reservations hovers around 80 percent. The visit to Fort Sam gave the kids opportunities to learn about careers in the military as well as about their cultural connection to the post through Chief Geronimo, who, according to records, was kept prisoner in the Quadrangle between the months of September and October 1886.

On September 4, 1886, after a grueling campaign across New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico, Geronimo surrendered to Gen. Nelson Miles in Arizona and was ordered sent to Florida as a prisoner of war. He and thirty-two other Apaches departed Arizona by train Sept. 8 under the conditions of their surrender. Citizens of Arizona were outraged and demanded Geronimo be returned to stand trial for murder and other crimes committed after his escape from the reservation.

President Cleveland initially wanted to turn Geronimo over to the civil authorities, but Miles insisted that the Apaches be treated as prisoners of war. Cleveland ordered the train stopped at the nearest military post until he could settle the issue. The train stopped in San

Antonio on Sept. 10 and the Apaches were brought to the Quadrangle. They were kept there because the Guardhouse on what is now called the Infantry Post was not completed. Geronimo and his party left San Antonio on October 22, 1886.

"Whenever these trips have a Native American connection, these kids perk up," said Sisneros. They are Navajo, whereas Geromino was Apache, but at one time the two tribes were one people. They all originated in Central Canada. For environmental reasons they went different directions but they can understand each other's language."

The students were welcomed to the Quadrangle by Fifth Army Command Sgt. Maj. Teddy Harman, a 34-year veteran who stressed to them the Army axioms of staying in shape to maintain health and gaining opportunities through education. Sisneros said those messages wouldn't be lost on the students, a "smart" group of 11-to-13-year-olds whose goals are either trade school or college. What they lack, he said, are the opportunities to reach their goals.

"These kids live in the third poorest county in the country. Sixty percent of them have no electricity or running water. I talk constantly to them about the military as a way out of their



Photo by Don Thomas

▲ Students from the Navajo Boarding School of Pueblo Pinata Reservation in New Mexico enjoy feeding deer in the Quadrangle, April 10.

current situation. With the median income (on the reservation) of \$8,000 to \$10,000 dollars a year, the starting military salary is a good option for them," said Sisneros, himself an Army veteran.

What also makes the partnership between the military and the students a potentially good one, according to Sisneros, is the character of the kids who qualify for the educational incentive trips. Kids qualify for the trips by maintaining a 3.0 Grade Point Average, staying in school, staying out of trouble and doing community service projects.

"That's easy to do the first nine weeks but to maintain that throughout the year is difficult.

We're changing their outlook about being nerds. They don't look at it as something negative. Now they see it as something to keep working towards," said Sisneros. He said the group started out as 25 but dwindled to the 14 who maintained the academic and personal discipline to qualify for the trip to San Antonio.

Twelve-year-old seventh grader Wylie Willetto said several things had impressed him during his trip. "I'll remember the River Walk downtown, and from here (the Quadrangle) the military hats and shiny shoes. And you have animals that are not scared of you."

Dinner theatre boasts 27 seasons of entertainment

By Edward Rivera
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre, in its 27th season, opened “The Cemetery Club” on April 3. The comedy written by Ivan Menchell, which will run until May 4, is a tender and poignant story about three widows who meet once a month to remember past times.

As the play unfolds, their feelings reveal that although life must move on, their friendship remains important. The three Jewish widows meet for tea before going to the cemetery to visit their husband’s graves.

Ida, played by Magda Porter, is sweet-tempered and ready to begin a new life. Lucille characterized by Holly Holbrook, is a feisty embodiment of the girl who just wants to have fun. And Martha Prentiss portrays the priggish and judgmental Doris, particularly so when Sam the butcher, played by Michael Hardy, enters the scene.

Sam meets the widows while visiting his wife’s grave. Doris and Lucille squash the budding romance between Sam and Ida, but become guilt-stricken when this nearly breaks Ida’s heart.

In 1993 The Cemetery club was made into a feature film. Menchell has also written several plays, episodes for the television show The Nanny and was a writer/producer on Ally McBeal.

The dinner theatre, now in its 27th season has produces approximately 160 of shows annually. The cast and crewmembers are all volunteers and are not compensated for their work. Open auditions are held for all shows.

The next play, “Lend Me a Tenor” by Ken Ludwig will show May 22 to June 22. Auditions for “Dearly Departed” will be held on May 13 and 14.

Performances are Wednesday through Saturday evenings with the house opening for cocktails and salad bar at 6:15 p.m. Dinner is served from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and curtain time is 8 p.m. Prices are \$25.95 on Friday and Saturday and \$22.95 on Wednesday and Thursday. There are military discount rates. For reservations call 222-9694 or come to the theatre in advance. The box office is open Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. The Harlequin Dinner Theatre is also handicapped accessible.



◀During a dress rehearsal at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre, Art Peden, The Cemetery Club director, observes as Ida (Magda Porter) visits her late husband’s grave and speaks to him tenderly as she prepares to move on with her life without him.

Photos by:
Edward Rivera



◀Sam (Michael Hardy) pours Ida (Magda Porter) a cup of tea during a dress rehearsal for The Cemetery Club. Their budding relationship threatens to interfere with Ida’s friendship with the other two members of the club, Lucile (Holly Holbrook) and Doris (Martha Prentiss).

147th Medical Logistics Battalion takes CTT one step further

►Pvt. 2 David Valdez (right) observes as Sgt. Shala Gaston and Sgt. Christopher Pina conduct the Nuclear Biological Chemical class, which is part of the 147 Medical Logistics Battalion’s annual Common Task Training.



Courtesy photo

By 1st Lt. Degratious Jenkins
Special to the News Leader

A Company, 147th Medical Logistics Battalion conducted their annual Common Task Training validation during the week of March 18 at training area 13D. The purpose for CTT is to assess the training and readiness level of each soldier on basic skills in a field environment. The soldiers are trained in their respective units before coming to the area to be tested.

This CTT evaluation went to a step further, by allowing the soldiers to apply their skills under simulated combat conditions. Pvt. Randy Liddy said, “Situational training

helps us utilize our training in a more realistic way. This makes training more interesting.”

Common tasks are skills that every soldier learns in Basic Combat Training, and all soldiers are tested annually to hone these “basic tools” of the battlefield. A Company understands the importance of quality training, which is why the evaluation process was conducted in combat scenarios.

The units went through the lanes in squads of six, consisting of one NCO and five soldiers. During the course, they encountered situations requiring them to react to direct fire from machine gun simulators and indirect fire from

artillery simulators. Other tasks included reacting to indirect fire, evaluating casualties, breaching an obstacle, sending a Nuclear Biological Chemical report and reacting to an NBC attack. The entire evaluation took approximately two hours to complete. The training was hardcore very realistic, “We actually wore full Mission Oriented Protective Postures gear and trained in the mud,” said Spc. Nelson Valenzuela. When asked what he thought was the key to the success of the course, he answered, “A lot of teamwork. Over all, it came down to teamwork.”

Special Forces Recruiting Team to visit Fort Sam Houston

The Special Forces Recruiting team will be conducting recruiting briefings Monday, April 29 through Thursday, May 2, at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797, Training Room 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Recruiting the best for the best

Special Forces offers a wide variety of missions and a varied operations tempo. Some of the missions include, but are not limited to direct action, foreign internal defense, anti-terrorism, special reconnaissance and other activities. Take the challenge and prepare for an exciting and well-enhanced career change with higher pay and advanced promotion schedule for both officers and enlisted.

Interested personnel:

- Schedule a SF Physical at the Troop Medical Clinic
- Enlisted E-4 through E-7, bring your 2a/a-1/ERB
- Officers YG 00-01, bring your ORB
- Contact Special Forces Recruiter at
DSN: 738-5324 or 738-7411
Commercial: (254) 288-5324 or 288-7422
Cellular: (254) 392-0270
Fax: (254) 287-4934
Mail Address:
Special Forces Recruiter
P.O. Box 5577
Fort Hood, Texas 76544

FSH Boy Scout Pack holds annual Pinewood Derby

By Anna Alvarado
Special to the News Leader

One of the highlights of any cub scout's year is the Pinewood Derby. Successful cub scouting events, like the Pinewood Derby, require advanced planning and lots of parental involvement. Pack 23, of Fort Sam Houston, held their annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday, April 6. It was a successful event for the Pack and a fun experience for the cubs and their families.

Excitement ran high and the competition was keen. There were 23 cars entered in this year's race. As the cub scouts reported in, each car was weighed and adjusted to within the maximum weight limit of five ounces. After the car was accepted by weight, both the cub and the car were assigned their identification (the racecar name in this case). A card bearing the identification name was attached to the car. The cubs then placed their cars on the display table, which aided in the judging for design award or Best in Show.

The Stearns Method of Pinewood Derby racing was used. Dr. David Stearns, a mathematician and a world

authority on game theory, created this method of race scheduling. His method designed a race schedule for a two to four lane track that maximized participation, assured that all cars raced on each lane and raced against as many other cars as possible.

During the course of each Pinewood Derby race, two cubs are at the finish line waiting to retrieve their cars while two more cubs were directed to be on deck with their cars ready to go in the next race and two more are anticipating being called on deck. Out of a field of 23 cars, discipline was not a problem. The race procedure sounds a little complicated, but in practice it worked quite smoothly.

Derbies of one kind or another have always been a part of cub scouting. As early as 1939, the Boy Scouts of America Supply Division listed kits for model planes, boats, and airplanes. The derbies have been viewed as a way to get parents and sons to cooperate on a project. The first reference to the Pinewood Derby in a Scout publication was in the October, 1954 issue of *Boy's Life*. More than 15 million kits were sold during the next 20 years.

Winners

Race Winners

First Place: "Sonic"
Aaron Mullins

Second Place: "Big Red"
Scott Stroup

Third Place: "Dolphin"
Zachary Fay

Best design: "Atomic"
C.J. Smith

*All racers received a Pinewood Derby patch for their participation.

►Parents of the Fort Sam Houston Boy Scout Pack 23 stop to admire the various Pinewood Derby entries prior to the race.

Photos by:
Anna Alvarado



▲Pack 23 Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby winners (left to right) Zachary Fay, 3rd place, Scott Stroup, 2nd place, and Aaron Mullins, 1st place, show off their trophies following the race at the Youth Center Annex.



Continuing education is the answer

By Cecile Greszler
Special to the News Leader

Stop right where you are! Ask yourself the following questions: Are you competitive in your career? Are you in the career you want to be in? Do you know you need higher education? Do you know you need high test scores for promotion, for a different career path, or to attend a school? Do you know about the Army's financial programs for schooling for Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve soldiers? Do you know you need advice to help you reach your goals? Do you know where to start? The Army Continuing Education Center is the answer place.

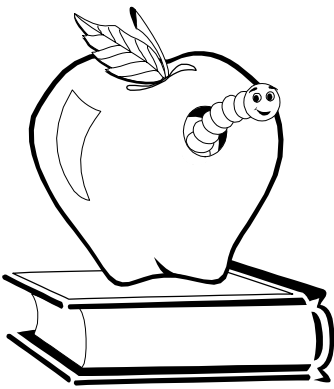
The Army Continuing Education System located on New Braunfels Avenue, serves active duty soldiers and adult family members, Reservists, National Guardsmen, and DOD civilians.

The ACES center in Bldg. 2248 is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. It houses the Education Services Officer and staff, administrative services, counseling services, testing services, and PLATO/CYBIS tutoring lab. Webster University, Wayland Baptist University, and Alamo Community College District representatives' offices are also there. Southwest Texas State University, University of Texas at San Antonio, National Graduate School, and other local colleges have representatives who are available at the center certain times during each month.

Bldg. 2247, the Army Learning Center, houses the MOS library, St Mary's University representative, classroom, and computer lab. The classroom is used for MILDEC and other classes. The computer lab is for research, distance learning, and Webster University class

use. Counseling, tutoring, and educational computer lab services are offered free of charge. Counseling, done on a walk-in basis, is the first step. Counselors help determine goals, recommend testing or tutoring, and make soldiers familiar with the Army Career Degree Program, SOCAD system, and other programs. They then refer each individual to the appropriate support services.

Tests administered by the testing section include the TABE, AFCT, CLEP, SAT, ACT, DANTES, The Defense Language Proficiency Test and others. ECE tests are available only to active duty, and eligible Guard and Reserve members. GED and GRE are not offered on post. Testing is free for active duty service members and eligible Guard and Reserve members. It is fee-based, space-available for all others.

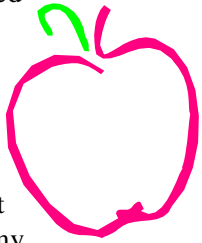


The PLATO/ CYBIS tutoring lab is currently open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and is staffed by certified teachers who provide individualized, computer-based tutoring in math, reading, language arts, and GT/AFCT.

Whether you are searching for personal enrichment or professional development, the Army's Education services and benefits are the best place to start. For more information contact the center at 221-1738.

Free nutrition classes offered at fitness center

Nutrition Classes will be offered in the Fitness for Your Health Office at the Jimmy



Brought Fitness Center April 22 from 9:30 to 10 a.m., April 26 from 11:30 a.m. to noon, and on April 29 from 5 to 6 p.m. These classes are free and will be taught by a registered dietician.

For more information:

Call Lucian at 221-2020 or 221-1234.



◀ Maj. Gen. Robert Silverthorn, 95th Division Commanding General hands the U.S. Army color to Lt. Col. Floyd Priester, commander 13th Battalion, 95th Regiment, 95th Division symbolizing the re-designation of the 3457th Medical Training Center to the 13th Battalion in a ceremony held at the Fort Sam Houston NCO Club April 13.



▲ Eighteen Army Reserve soldiers from the 95th Division activated to support the 91W Heathcare Specialist course after Sept. 11, were demobilized April 15. In a ceremony held at the Fort Sam Houston NCO Club on April 13, Maj. Gen. Robert Silverthorn, 95th Division Commanding General recognized the soldiers for their flexibility in mobilizing within 48 hours and providing professional attitude and experienced support.

Cole students’ artwork wins honors in Fiesta Art Contest

By Gail Siller
Special to the News Leader

Three Robert G. Cole Junior/Senior High School eighth graders and one ninth grader were recognized by Mayor Ed Garza and the San Antonio City Council in a meeting held at the City Hall on April 4 for their outstanding entries in the annual “Fiesta in San Antonio” Art Contest. The Cole students were four of only 35 student winners honored citywide.

Selected from over 900 entries, the artwork submitted by Cole eighth graders Sarah Burgess, Ashley Hatton, and Amanda McCormick earned Honorable Mention honors in the Middle School Category. Cole ninth grader Christine Ingari’s entry won Honorable Mention honors in the High School Division.

“The theme of this annual contest is “Fiesta



Photo by Rita Hansen

▲ Robert G. Cole Junior High School eighth graders (l to r) Ashley Hatton, Sarah Burgess, and Amanda McCormick stand in front of the display recognizing their winning entries in the City of San Antonio’s annual “Fiesta in San Antonio” Art Contest. Not pictured is ninth grader Christine Ingari who was one of the four Cole students honored citywide.

in San Antonio,” stated Cole Art teacher Rita Hansen. “Students were given approximately two weeks working time to develop an original idea that is symbolic of San Antonio and its annual Fiesta celebration.”

“I was proud of these girls’ entries as their

work was exceptional,” said Hansen. “They are talented artists.”

The contest was divided into three divisions: elementary, middle school, and high school, with honors awarded to the top three places in each division as well as one overall

winning entry. Additionally, 25 entries were selected in the Honorable Mention category.

“All of the winning artwork is displayed in the windows of the San Antonio Children’s Museum throughout the month of April,” added Hansen.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Weekly Campus Activities

April 22 - 26

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School
Monday, April 22
Earth Day

Tuesday, April 23
King Antonio - 10:25 a.m.

Wednesday, April 24
Volunteer/Mentor Appreciation Day 9 - 10 a.m.
Secretary’s Day

Friday, April 26
School Holiday - Battle of Flowers Day

Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School
Monday, April 22
UIL Literary Meet - TBA
Fife and Drum Corps at Cole Field - 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 23
TAKS: Reading Grade 9 - TBA
Baseball vs Stockdale at Cole - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24
TAKS: English Language Arts Grades 10 and 11 - TBA
All Day Band Rehearsal at Alamo Stadium for Battle of Flowers Parade
Regional Tennis Tournament - TBA

Thursday, April 25
TAKS: English Language Arts Grades 10 and 11 - TBA
Regional Tennis Tournament - TBA
Battle of the Bands Performance at Alamo Stadium - TBA

Friday, April 26
School Holiday - Battle of Flowers Day
Cole Float and Band in Battle of Flowers Parade - TBA
Regional Track Meet at San Marcos - TBA

Saturday, April 27
Regional Track Meet at San Marcos - TBA



Reforming financial management system can save big

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

When you hear the term “reforming the military financial management system,” chances are you just turn off.

The cliché is a bunch of policy weenies sitting around discussing esoteric points of spread sheets or flow charts.

The problem with the cliché is it allows people to ignore a severe problem that has plagued the Defense Department for years, said Tina Jonas, deputy undersecretary of defense for financial management.

The department’s financial management system is a mess and reforming it could channel billions of taxpayers’ dollars to constructive pursuits, she said. To give an idea of the scope of the problem, Jonas noted DoD in fiscal 2001 paid \$40 million in late fees alone.

“Why should we do that?” she asked. “It’s dumb. Let’s get our act together to pay on time and use that \$40 million on something else.”

In fiscal 1999, a defense audit found that about \$2.3 trillion of balances, transactions and adjust-

ments were inadequately documented. These “unsupported” transactions do not mean the department ultimately cannot account for them, she advised, but that tracking down needed documents would take a long time. Auditors, she said, might have to go to different computer systems, to different locations or access different databases to get information.

Reform is more than just changing an audit system, but also the way the bureaucracy works. If the department were a business, Jonas said, it would dwarf the world’s largest private firms. DoD employs more than 3 million people; it has more than 600 facilities around the world and an annual budget of \$370 billion; and it maintains more than \$1 trillion in assets, she remarked.

Reforming such a financial giant will take a long time, but it must happen and is one of his highest priorities, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said. Officials have estimated this reform effort will take years and billions of dollars. Rumsfeld requested and received \$100 million from Congress in fiscal 2002 to begin the process. He has requested another \$100 million in

fiscal 2003.

The reform means that the department will be a better steward of taxpayer dollars and will enable leaders to make better decisions about projects and programs.

Some of the impediments are a result of years of “business as usual” practices. Different agencies collect and process the same information differently. One Defense computer system may list a soldier as “Pfc. Joseph B. Snuffy” born on 7/4/1983. Another may list him a “Snuffy, Joseph B., PFC, born 4 July 1983.” Data from one system cannot be easily transferred to another because they’re entered differently. Standardizing collection and processing would go a long way to allowing Defense Department systems to “speak” to each other across service and agency boundaries.

Another example of the need for standardization is in equipment purchases. When the Navy, for example, purchases a vehicle, it is assigned a mind-numbing 82-digit-long number. The Army assigns a 66-digit-long number. Rental car giant Hertz, by contrast, uses 11 digits. Just putting such long strings of numbers into systems can allow errors to creep

into the process.

The same sort of problem is seen in virtually every other area of data storage and management, and both these examples point to the need for standardization in the department.

Getting these machines to speak to each other should not be difficult. For example, for years the Defense Department has required contractors and defense agencies to use the electronic data interchange to exchange information to pay bills. The contractors and agencies don’t have the same systems or needs, yet they can exchange information and work together.

Financial reform will also give defense leaders better management tools. “Defense leaders should have better information available to them,” Jonas said. “A corporation president wants to know, ‘How is my company operating? How efficient are we?’

“They have a built-in measurement — the profit factor. But shouldn’t we want to be able to measure how efficient we are with the people’s money?”

Developing the measurements that are most helpful to defense leaders is another hurdle. “You can measure anything,” Jonas said. “But

just because you can measure something doesn’t necessarily mean that is helpful.” Nor does it mean that officials can use those measurements to fairly evaluate one program or project against another. There is also a cost to gathering information and that must be factored in to any equation of financial reform.

“The key is finding the right metrics to measure,” Jonas said. Some of the questions that need to be asked, she said were, “What is important to defense managers and leaders?” “What does the secretary of defense need to make an informed choice?” Once the choice is made, how do you evaluate the progress being made both within the project or program and when compared with other programs?

The final price tag for the changes is not in, Jonas said. “Agency leaders must realize this is important and they will get benefits from (these changes),” she said. “This really is the only way to go. It’s a message to the department: ‘Think about what you’re spending money on.’ It’s not just money that can be spread around, somebody earned that money.”

Deployed soldiers say family readiness groups work

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

While thousands of Reserve and active-duty soldiers are deployed in the Central Command area of operations as part Operation Enduring Freedom, their families are being well cared for and kept informed.

That observation was made by more than a dozen soldiers in Uzbekistan and Afghanistan when Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki visited the area April 6.

The only concern a group of 17 enlisted troops breakfasting with Shinseki at an undisclosed location in Uzbekistan voiced was that their families wanted to know when they would return home. At the same time, they said both they and their families were proud of what they were doing as part of Enduring Freedom far from home. The soldiers also said their unit family readiness groups were a great help to their spouses.

Shinseki acknowledged that not knowing when they could expect to return home was a valid concern and promised to get an answer back to them soon.

Family support groups first started appearing in the early 1990's when thousands of National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers were called to active duty to support the Gulf War. Many reserve-component units were initially overwhelmed by phone calls from family members seeking services the Army offered but spouses didn't know where to access them. Once established, unit FSGs acted as a focal point to pass that information on and information between the deployed soldiers and families.

Senior Army leadership has recently started to call these unit groups family readiness groups. Shinseki explained the rationale behind the name change at a Spouse Orientation and Leadership Development meeting held in Washington, D.C., in February. The term "readiness" stresses the need for units to be proactive in preparing soldiers and their families for the possibility of deployment, rather than reactionary when a deployment occurs, Shinseki said.

For Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Denegall, a supply support activity noncommissioned-officer-in-charge

with the 5-30th Supply and Support Battalion at Bagram Airfield, a well-functioning unit FRG back at home means his unit gets video-taped messages from loved ones at least once a month. It also means his wife has a reliable network of others in similar circumstances to fall back on if she needs help at home, he said.

"My wife and daughter are very proud of what I am doing over here," Denegall said. "They know I am doing fine because I get to talk

with them on the phone several times a week. My wife also knows I am doing fine because she attends family (readiness) group luncheons and meetings where they discuss how we are doing."

Knowing that his unit FRG is there for his family, Denegall said, allows him to enjoy what he thinks as his greatest achievement in a 21-year Army career — training new troops who have never worked in a supply support activity to support warfighters conducting real combat

missions.
Cpl. Jamaison Pilgreen, a Firefinder radar specialist with the 2-15th Field Artillery Battalion at Bagram said his wife gets calls from his unit's FRG but hasn't attended any of its functions yet. "She's pretty independent — she works and lived by herself for five years before we got married," Pilgreen said. "Still, it's nice to know the family (readiness) group is there if she needs it."

Everything you didn't know that you needed to know about Army life

What are your summer plans? Are you PCSing, graduating from a training course, or are you planning a June wedding? Get a jump-start on your adaptation to Army life by attending Army Family Team Building Level I training. If you're graduating from a training course and about to make your first PCS move, chances are, you will not going to another installation like Fort Sam Houston. If you're getting married, AFTB classes will prepare you or your fiancé for life as an "Army spouse".

Classes will be offered as follows:

Date	Time	Topic
April 30	6 to 9 p.m.	Family and Military Expectations Impact of the Mission on Family Life Chain of Command/Chain of Concern Military Terms, Acronyms, Customs

Note: Evening classes will be held in the Roadrunner Community on Stanley Road. Saturday classes will be held at BAMC (specific location to be announced). For more information or registration for any of these classes, please call Connie Fretwell at 221-2705.

Notice



Legal Assistance Office closed, April 25

The Legal Assistance Office will be closed for attorney consultations on April 25 and 26 due to continuing legal education training and a training holiday. Walk-in notary and power of attorney services will still be available on April 25. For information, call the Legal Assistance Office at 221-2282 or 221-2353.

The Claims Office will also be closed in observance of a training holiday on April 26. For information, call 295-8676.

Legal Assistance office announces new hours of operation

The Fort Sam Houston Legal Assistance Office, located in Bldg. 134 on Stanley Road, is available for walk-in consultations with an attorney at 8 a.m., Monday, Thursday and Friday on a first-come basis. Only 10 walk-in consultations are available, and from the ten, active duty personnel in uniform will have priority. Scheduled appointments are available one week in advance based on the availability of attorney’s schedule. Notary service and powers of attorney are available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except during will signing hours on Tuesday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. The above hours are subject to change due to mission requirement. For information, call 221-2353 or 221- 2282.

Post worship schedule

Protestant

Sunday:

- 8 a.m. Service, AMEDD Regimental Chapel, Bldg. 1398
- 9 a.m. Traditional Service, Installation Chaplain’s Office, Bldg.2530
- 9:15 a.m. Troop Service, Evans Auditorium, Bldg. 1396
- 10 a.m. Service, BAMC Chapel
- 10:45 a.m. Gospel Service, Dodd Field Chapel, Bldg. 1721
- 11 a.m. Service, AMEDD Regimental Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. Gospel Service, Evans Auditorium
- 12:30 Spanish Service, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

Wednesday:

- 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. PWOC meeting, Dodd Field Chapel (Childcare is provided for those who attend PWOC meeting).
- 12 p.m. Bible Study, Dodd Field Chapel
- 12 p.m. Service, BAMC Chapel

Catholic

Saturday:

- 5:30 p.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

Sunday:

- 8:30 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Mass, Dodd Field Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel
- *12:45 p.m. Mass, Dodd Field Chapel
- *Bilingual Mass on 1st Sunday of the month (For information call 590-6593).

Weekdays:

- 11 a.m. Mass, BAMC Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. Mass, AMEDD Regimental Chapel

1st Friday:

- 9 a.m. Mass Catholic Women, Dodd Field Chapel

Jewish

Friday:

- 8 p.m. Service, Dodd Field Chapel
- 8:30 p.m. Oneg Shabbat, Dodd Field Chapel (For information call 379-8666 or 493-6660)

Mormon

Sunday:

- 10:30 a.m. Bldg. 1350, Room 1, Koehler Road, across from Evans Auditorium

Wednesday:

- 7 p.m. LDS Studies, Bldg. 1350, Room 1

Muslim

Sunday:

- 10:30 a.m. Religious Education, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Friday:

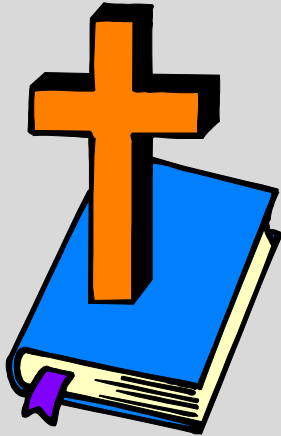
- 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Prayer Service, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Thursday:

- 8 p.m. Adult Religious Education, Bldg. 607A, Infantry Post

Note: The Post Gift Chapel is closed for renovations indefinitely.

Chaplain Administrative Offices are located at Dodd Field Chapel, Bldg. 1721, phone number 221-5432. Garrison staff duty officer, (after duty) 221-2810.



Practice safe use of ladders to avoid accidents

A construction crew was preparing to pour concrete into forms. A laborer climbed up a ladder on one side of the forms and stepped over the form to stand on an unguarded scaffold on the opposite side. He was carrying two hand trowels and a brush to be used by other workers after the concrete was poured. He fell, striking his head on a concrete slab at ground level and sustained fatal injuries.

Because the employee had previously worked for the employer on several different occasions and had been performing this type of work over the last 21 years the employer felt no training was necessary for this employee and none was provided. Unfortunately, this scenario happens too often.

Fort Sam Houston Memorandum 385-89, Ladders, combines all the regulatory requirements into one memorandum for all personnel to follow. The purpose of this starts is to provide Forts Sam Houston and contractor personnel with guidance for the use, maintenance and inspection of ladders.

These standards are applicable to all personnel working at Fort Sam Houston and its satellite installations. Federal employees must comply with the DoD and DA guidance. Contractors and their employees must comply with both the OSHA standards and federal contracting guidelines.

Supervisors should train employees to recognize and avoid unsafe conditions associated with their work. Also install standard guardrail and toeboards on all open sides and ends of platforms more than 10 feet above the ground or floor.

Types of ladders:

Industrial stepladder, 3 to 20 feet for heavy duty, such as utilities, contractors and industrial use.

Commercial stepladder, 3 to 12 feet for medium duty, such as painters, offices and light industrial use.

Household stepladder, 3 to 6 feet for light duty, such as light household use.

Two side rails joined at regular intervals by cross-pieces called steps, rungs or cleats.

Note: Helpful references along with the safety training calendar can be found on the Installation Safety Office (ISO) web site www.cs.amedd.army.mil/iso under regulations. For assistance, please contact Guadalupe Gomez via email at Guadalupe.Gomez@CEN.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL or by phone at 221-9882. Alternatively, contact Brian Pennartz via email at brian.pennartz@amedd.army.mil or by phone at 221-0563.

Tips for the Safe Use of Ladders:

- Position portable ladders so the side rails extend at least three feet above the landing.
- Never carry tools or material by hand while climbing.
- Always maintain a three-point connection with the ladder (two hands and a foot or two feet and a hand).

- Only one person on a portable ladder at a time.
- Before each use inspect the ladder for cracked or broken parts such as rungs, steps, side rails, feet and locking component.
- Always use a ladder for its intended purpose only.



Take steps to prevent a back injury

Although the Occupational Safety and Health Administration has not adapted specific regulatory standards, the U.S. Department of the Army has established procedures and policies aimed at reducing/eliminating back injuries. The following references briefly describe the Army guidance for implementing a successful Back Injury Prevention Program: DA Pamphlet 40-21, Ergonomics Program; DA Pamphlet 385-8, Safety Back Injury Prevention, and Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than one million workers nationwide suffer back injuries each year, and back injuries account for one of every five workplace injuries or illnesses. The average cost of a lost-time back injury is over \$24,000 and the average cost of a back injury requiring surgery is \$180,000. Preventing back injuries helps the Army maintain its readiness status.

Recognize the five leading back injury risk factors: poor posture, poor physical condition, improper body mechanics, incorrect lifting and jobs that require high energy.

Lifting techniques:

- Plant your feet firmly - get a stable base.
- Bend at your knees - not your waist; this uses your leg muscles to

lift.

Tighten your abdominal muscles to support your spine.

Get a good grip - use both hands and use handles, if available.

Keep the load close to your body.

Keep your back upright in its natural posture.

Lift steadily and smoothly; avoid jerking motion.

Breathe - if you must hold your breath to lift it, it is too heavy.

Work as a team. If materials weigh more than about 50 pounds, do not lift them by yourself, get help from another worker or use a cart.

When lifting don't...

- Bend from the waist to lift objects from the floor.
- Twist and lift.
- Lift with one hand (unbalanced).
- Lift loads across obstacles.
- Lift while reaching or stretching.
- Lift from an uncomfortable posture.
- Hold your breath while lifting - if you have to hold your breath, get help.

Recommended work prac-

tices:

Do warm-up exercises before work to help reduce muscle injuries.

Reduce carrying distances of the object; have it delivered close to where it will be used.

Reduce the size or weight of the object being lifted, if possible.

Avoid lifting which occurs below knee height or above shoulder height.

Avoid obstructions that restrict getting directly to the object being lifted.

Raise the platform where the work will be performed to waist level, if possible.

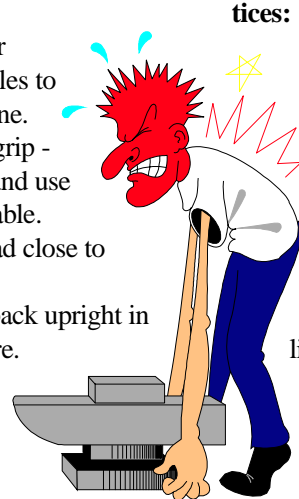
Use mechanical aids such as pneumatic lifts, carts, dollies, forklifts, and hoists to move objects.

Make sure floors and walkways are clear and dry; slips and trips are a big cause of back injuries.

Slide the object instead of lifting it, if possible; push do not pull.

Take rest breaks; tired people have a tendency to have more injuries.

If you are suffering from acute back pain, seek immediate medical attention.



not support the use of back belts and does not classify them as personal protective equipment. There is no evidence that they prevent injuries. Back belts shall not be used unless prescribed by a medical provider for an individual for a specified time and purpose.

Training - Back injury prevention program consists of training employees in proper lifting techniques that emphasize placing no minimum stress on the lower back. Teaching personnel proper lifting would help prevent or reduce the number of back injuries. Please contact the Installation Safety Office (ISO) to request training in one of their scheduled Back Injury Prevention classes.

Note: Helpful references along with the safety-training calendar can be found on the ISO web site www.cs.amedd.army.mil/iso under regulations. For assistance, please contact Mr. Guadalupe Gomez via email at Guadalupe.Gomez@CEN.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL or by phone at 221-9882. Alternatively, contact Mr. Brian Pennartz via email at brian.pennartz@amedd.army.mil or by phone at 221-0563.

Back Belts - The Army does

Include risk management in daily activities

The Department of the Army requires all personnel to include the Risk Management concept in their daily activities. The following are helpful references are recommended: FSH Memorandum 385-31, Risk Management Program; Army Regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program; FM 100-14, Risk Management, and FM 101-5, Staff Organization and Operations.

These references provide information on the basic principles for integrating Risk Management into all activities at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston and cover all personnel working at Fort Sam Houston and its satellite installations.

Risk Management is a disciplined and logical decision making process that facilitates loss prevention by identifying, evaluating, and eliminating or minimizing accidental hazards. Implementing Risk Management procedures in all protect the force programs can conserve combat power and resources by preclud-

ing unacceptable risks to personnel and property.

Risk Management principles include the following:

Integrate risk management into mission planning, preparation and execution.

Make risk decisions at the appropriate level in the chain of command.

Accept no unnecessary risk, but accept some risk if the benefit outweighs the cost.

Employers are to require employees to wear appropriate personal protective equipment in all situations where employees are exposed to hazardous conditions or in specific circumstances are required in OSHA standards 29 CFR 1926.28(a) and 29 CFR 1926.104(a).

Safety nets must be provided when workplaces are more than 25 feet above the ground or water surface, or other surfaces where the use of ladders, scaffold, catch platforms, temporary floors, safety lines, or safety belts is impractical as in accordance with OSHA standard 29 CFR 1926.105(a).

Except where either permanent or temporary stairways or suitable ramps or runways are provided, suitable ladders should be used to give safe access to all elevations in accordance with OSHA standard 29 CFR 1926.450(a)(1).

The following Risk Management Process is recommended: Identify workplace hazards.

Assess hazards to determine risks.

Develop controls and make risk decisions.

Implement controls.

Supervise and evaluate the effectiveness.

Risk Management assists the commander, supervisor or leader in:

Conserving lives and resources and avoiding unnecessary risk.

Making an informed decision to implement a course of action.

Identifying feasible and effective hazard control measures, even when standards do not exist.

An essential element of an effective RM program is training all personnel in the principles of RM, how risk assessments are conducted and when risk assess-

ments are required. Through effective training, personnel will be able to spot hazards, analyze their associated risks and make decisions on how best to handle and control the risks. All personnel must have had initial RM training and if they have not, these individuals must attend one of the Installation Safety Office RM training classes. Also, refresher training should be accomplished periodically and the ISO can help in this training.

Note: Helpful references along with the safety training calendar can be found on the ISO web site www.cs.amedd.army.mil/iso under regulations.

For assistance, please contact Guadalupe Gomez via email at Guadalupe.Gomez@CEN.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL or by phone at 221-9882.

Alternatively, contact Dinivahi via email at murty.dinivahi@amedd.army.mil or by phone at 221-9872.

Family Advocacy Conference held for children’s safety

By Edward Rivera
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Today violence seems to be an unpleasant fact that everyone accepts. It’s all over the newspapers and television, it’s a part our daily entertainment and it’s in our homes. In Texas alone 50,000 children suffer from child abuse and neglect. Home should be the safest place for a child, but it’s not.

Last week, a First Response to Child Maltreatment Conference hosted by the Fort Sam Houston Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program was held at the Roadrunner Community Center. The three-day conference gave insight on maltreatment, indicators of maltreatment, child abuse prevention and education, and insights to legal and medical considerations.

Army Medical Department speakers included Lt. Col. Reginald Moore, Chief of Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant, who talked about Shaken Baby Syndrome; Lee Roscoe, Instructional systems specialist, who spoke on Children at Risk: prevention and education, and the influence of pornography on children; and Lt. Col. Dexter R. Freeman, chief, Family Advocacy Training Section, who focused on ethical considerations.

Other experts to speak at the conference included Susan Irving, Child Protec-

tive Services, Ken Wooden, founder, Child Lures Prevention and Dr. Sharon W. Cooper, Developmental and Forensic Pediatrics.

Cooper provided a history of protective laws. She explained the how laws were adapted to protect children from the first child abuse case reported. In the late 1800s a young girl named Mary Ellen was horribly abused. “No laws at the time were in place concerning the welfare and treatment of children, but there were laws in effect to protect animals by the Humane Society,” explained Cooper. “Through those laws Mary Ellen was removed from her abusers.”

Cooper went on to talk about the child labor laws enacted during the 1920s to protect children from being used as cheap labor. In 1940 the first medical arena involvement with child maltreatment, a radiologist began to identify multiple injuries and blunt instrument trauma that were not accidental in nature. This was the precursor to the first textbook on battered children, which was published in 1960.

Throughout the conference one issue was painfully clear. Children who are in crisis need all the help and support they can get. Typically children suffer from abuse long before it gets reported. As in on case cited, a child was beaten so badly he had to be



Photo by Edward Rivera

taken to the emergency room. There, doctors discovered many wounds old and new.

Most people seem to think the task of reporting abuse should be a job for parents, medical personnel, law enforcement, social services or even the victim. But it is important to realize that anyone can report the abuse of a child. Anyone who witnesses or suspects abuse or neglect has a legal obligation to report it to the Texas Department of Regulatory Services or a law enforcement agency.

“There are many people out there that are afraid to get involved or think that someone else will report the abuse,” said Cynthia Taylor, Family Advocacy Program Manager. “What they don’t realize is that the sooner they act the quicker help gets to a child.”

There are three types of abuse physical, sexual and neglect and each form has

different indicators to watch out for.

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse should be suspected when one sees frequent injuries like bruises, cuts, black eyes or burns with no adequate explanations. Close attention should be paid to bruises or burns in unusual patterns, which may indicate the use of an instrument, or cigarette burns on any part of the body. Question frequent complaints of pain without signs of obvious injury.

Some behavior can also serve as an indicator to physical abuse such as aggres-

sive, disruptive and destructive behavior. Passive, withdrawn and emotionless behavior can also indicate abuse. Children expressing fear of parents or going home can also be in crisis.

Other possible indicators are injuries that appear on a child after the child has not been seen for several days. A child wearing unreasonable clothing that may hide injuries to arms and legs.

Sexual Abuse

A child that has been sexually abused may exhibit some of the following signs such as physical signs

of sexually transmitted diseases, evidence of injury to the genital area, pregnancy in a young girl or difficulty sitting or walking.

Behavioral indicators can be frequent expressions of sexual activity between adult and child, extreme fear of being alone with adults of a certain sex, sexually suggestive, inappropriate or promiscuous behavior, knowledge of sexual relations beyond what is expected for a child’s age and sexual victimization of other children.

Neglect

Signs of neglect can be in the form of

◀The Conference ended with a Mock Trial using medical, legal and social aspects of child abuse. The panel consisted of Dr. Sharon Cooper, Lt. Col. Reginald Moore, Capt. Kris R. Poppe, and Chaplain, (Maj.) Gail Porter.

“There are many people out there that are afraid to get involved or think that someone else will report the abuse. What they don’t realize is that the sooner they act the quicker help gets to a child.”

Cynthia Taylor,
Family Advocacy Program Manager

obvious malnourishment, lack of personal cleanliness, torn or dirty clothing, stealing or begging for food, child unattended for long periods of time, need for glasses, dental care or other medical attention and frequent tardiness or absence from school.

“It takes a village to protect our children,” said Cooper. “Every one form parents, friends, relatives in addition to medical, social and legal agencies must unite in their efforts in order to stop child abuse in any form.”

Recreation and Fitness News



DFAS wins Volleyball Post Championship - DFAS won the Intramural Volleyball Post Championship held April 1-3 beating BAMC Team #1. The final match for the post championship boiled down to the same two teams that played last year with some different players involved. DFAS was undefeated going into championship match but, this time around BAMC became the spoiler and defeated DFAS 3 games to 2 forcing an “if” game. This was exactly the opposite of last year when DFAS forced the “if” game. In the final match DFAS defeated BAMC 3 games to 1 to win the Volleyball Post Championship.

Pre-season Softball Tournament - 5th Army won the Pre-season Softball Tournament held April 1-4 beating the 443rd MP Company. In the championship game both teams held each other in check with 5th Army taking a 3 to 0 lead going into the 4th inning. In their half of the 4th the 443rd MP Company scored two runs to cut the lead to 3 to 2, but 5th Army came back in their half of the inning to score 1 run to take the lead 4 to 2. In the 5th inning 443rd MP Company scored 2 runs to tie the game at 4 to 4. In the top half of the 6th inning 443rd MP Company scored 2 runs to take a 6 to 4 lead, but 5th Army scored 1 run in the bottom half to make the score 6 to 5 going into the final inning. In the 7th inning neither team scored resulting in the final score of 6 to 5 with the 443rd MP Company winning, thus forcing an “if” game. In the “if” game 5th Army jumped out to a big lead never to look back with the final score of 10 to 4, winning the Pre-season Softball Tournament.

Intramural Racquetball Tournament - In the first Intramural Racquetball Tournament, the following Divisions have completed play: Women’s Division, Connie Morrison from the 147th Med Log defeated Andrea Hughes from Headquarters, 5th Army 4 games to none. In the men’s Open Division Benz Panebaun from the 147th Med Log defeated Kenneth Mizell from the 147th Med Log 4 games to none. In the Senior Division Scott Hathaway from USAREC

defeated Gordon Lennox from 5th Army 2 games to none. Hathaway went through the Tournament Bracket undefeated winning all three of his matches. The Intramural Racquetball Season is complete. The Masters Division finished Wednesday. Lawrence Romo from USAREC won defeating Tom Hendricks from 5th Army.

Summer League Basketball Pre-season Double Elimination Tournament - May 19, 9 a.m., Jimmy Brought Fitness Center 3-on-3 tournament, all teams authorized 4 players. Open to ID cardholders.

Around the World Two-on-two three Point Shoot-out Double Elimination Basketball Tournament - May 11, Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, open to ID cardholders.

Aerobathon - Challenge yourself to three hours of non-stop aerobics, May 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, Aerobics Room. \$10 to participate, T-shirts for all registered participants.

Fitness and Health Day - May 15, Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. The following services and information is offered: Cholesterol Screening, Diabetes Screening, Injury Prevention, Breast Cancer Awareness, Registered Dietician. Note: Cholesterol screening requires fasting for 12 hours. For more information on the above, call Lucian Kimble - 221-2020/1234

Women’s Varsity Softball - Players are still needed for the women’s softball team. If you are interested in playing, call Earl Young at 221-1180 or email Earl.Young@cen.amedd.army.mil

Varsity Soccer - Player are still needed for Varsity. If you are interested, call Earl Young at 221-1180 or email Earl.Young@cen.amedd.army.mil

Scuba Diving Certification Classes - Join this

exciting underwater adventure and get your PADI and NAUI certification. The next class is scheduled May 13 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. All Scuba gear is furnished. Classes run in 2 to 3 week sessions and cost \$190 per participant. Call 221-1234 or 658-7495 for more information.

Fiesta 5K/10K Kid’s Mini Marathon - Get ready to run in the Fiesta 5k/10k and Kid’s Mini Marathon April 20. The run/walk will get under way at 8 a.m. at the Old Post Headquarters, across the street from the flagpole on Stanley Road. Registration is \$20. Call 221-3185 for more information.

U.S. Army (FSH) Racing Team for Beach to Bay - Calling a few fast feet to participate in the upcoming FSH Fiesta 10K on April 20. Military winners of this event will be considered for FSH’s racing team in the upcoming “Beach to Bay relay team, which will be held on May 18 in Corpus Chrisiti, Texas. Register at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. For more information, call John Purnell at (210) 826-1888.

Enjoy a weekend at the lake - The weather is getting warmer, spend your weekends at the Fort Sam Houston Canyon Lake Recreation Area. Call 1-888-882-9878 or visit WWW.FTSAMCANYONLAKE.COM for rental prices and information.

Summer X-tramural basketball league - A coaches meeting will be held on April 30 at 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The league begins May 11. For information call Earl Young at 221-1180.

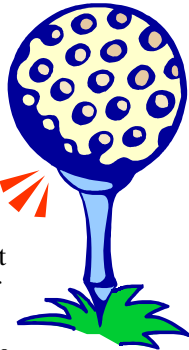
Fort Sam Houston Outdoor Equipment - Check out the great rental prices on everything from camping to fishing to gardening equipment. The FSH Outdoor Equipment rental also has bouncers for the kids’ birthday parties. Call 221-5224 for more information.

Tee Time



“For the Soldier” Golf Tournament to be held May 7

The Association of the U.S. Army will sponsor the fifth annual “For the Soldier” Golf Tournament on Tuesday, May 7 at the at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. Check in time is noon. Shotgun starts at 1:30 p.m. Fort Sam Houston members pay \$45, others \$65. Registration forms are available at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course or via e-mail at www.alamochapterausa.com. For information call Pete Van de Putte or Kay Wolf at (210) 227-5039 or e-mail: kwolf@dixieflag.com.



Youth Services needs Fiesta help

Youth Services is looking for volunteers to assist them with concession booths at FSH Fiesta on Sunday April 21 on Johnson Track from noon to 9 p.m. There will be 3-hour shifts and will welcome anyone interested in giving time in support of the youth of the community. For more information, call Emmett at 221-3502.



Texas Air and Army National Guard celebrates Fiesta 2002

The public is invited to join the Texas Air and Army National Guard as they celebrate Fiesta 2002 on April 24 from 3 p.m. to midnight at the Texas National Guard Armory, 4255 Interstate 35 North. There will be live entertain-

ment, a variety of food booths, military vehicles on display, kids rides, a Kareoke contest, and a dance until midnight. The event is sponsored by the National Guard Region VI Family Readiness Program to promote community

awareness of the Texas National Guard support of national disasters, including floods and fires, as well as overseas deployments and airport missions. Admission is free. For more information, call 226-3424, ext. 3416.

Respite Care 500 Mini Grand Prix Race



Courtesy photo

Who: Free fun for the entire family
What: Respite 500 Mini Grand Prix
When: Sunday, April 21, from noon to 3 p.m.
Where:Fort Sam Houston (in front of Old BAMC Bldg.)
*Proceeds benefit Respite Care of San Antonio, Inc., providing care for families who care for a child with a developmental disability.

19TH Alamo City Fiesta Rugby Battle

The Alamo City Rugby Football Club will host the 19th annual Fiesta Rugby competition on April 27th at Bowie Field located off Goliad Road in the Southeast side of San Antonio.

The tournament begins at 9 a.m. and consists of three separate competitions during the course of the day. For more information, visit their web site at www.alamocityrfc.org.

Caminada de Fiesta Walk

By Martin L. Callahan
Special to the News Leader

On April 20, you can celebrate the traditional kickoff to Fiesta events at Fort Sam Houston by participating in the Caminada de Fiesta Walk. The U.S. Army Medical Command, the Texas Wanderers walk club of Fort Sam Houston and New Balance Shoe are sponsoring this event.

The start point for this 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk is the Army Medical Department Museum at the corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Road. The Fort Sam Houston Museum is the second checkpoint for the walk. Both museums are free and open to the general public. The museums' web site can be viewed at: www.cs.amedd.army.mil/dptmsec/muse.htm

A 5-kilometer walk course will also be available. The start time for the walk is between 7:30 a.m. and noon, finish by 3 p.m. Participants in the walk will have the opportunity to purchase a Fiesta 2002 commemorative walk medal. There will be a drawing for a free pair of New Balance shoes donated by New Balance Shoe.

The first checkpoint will be at the entrance to the Botanical Gardens. Walkers can earn an additional 1-kilometer credit with a stroll through the beautiful gardens, for which the admission has been waived. Pets are not allowed in the gardens and an alternative course will be used. The Botanical Gardens web site can be viewed at: www.sabot.org

Fort Sam Houston is the ninth oldest Army post and has been designated a National Historic Landmark including over 900 historic buildings within its boundaries. Walkers will have the opportunity to see many of these historic old buildings along the trail. Soldiers from Fort Sam Houston have participated in every American War since 1845, while strolling along streets of our beautiful old post you will be following in their footsteps.



Photo by Martin Callahan

▲ Florent Deludet, a walk participant visiting from France, stands next to the "First Flight" marker behind the post flagpole along the trail of a previous Fiesta Walk. The marker commemorates the first military flight that took place near that spot on March 2, 1910.

For more Caminada information:

▼
Call or email:
Lyn Ward at 210- 651-6536,
LWard10KM@aol.com
or Jan Roberts at 210-655-3130,
TenKaywalk@aol.com



FSH joins 25,000 in 'Race for the Cure'

This event, emotional for many, has grown since its start five years ago when it attracted fewer than 4,000 people.

▲ Brig. Gen. Joseph Webb, U.S. Army Medical Command, deputy chief of staff, waves to the crowd during the start of the "Race for the Cure" held on Saturday, April 13.



►BAMC Sweathearts, BAMC Cancer Exercise Study, were one of several organizations from Fort Sam Houston who supported community efforts to increase awareness of breast cancer programs.



▲Team Captains for the FSH Coalition for Race for the Cure, Babs Kiley, a breast cancer survivor, Sandy Terrazzino, a registered nurse at Brooke Army Medical Center, Susan Ferrise, Breast Cancer Educator, BAMC, and Janie Thomas, Army Medical Center and School, organized and recruited participants from Fort Sam Houston. Not pictured is Nancy Moore, Fort Sam Houston Chapel Services.

Photos by:
Phil Reidinger
and
Esther Garcia

▼ Approximately 500 military and civilian personnel from Fort Sam Houston participated in the "Race for the Cure." Fort Sam Houston won first place for the largest team participation. Medical Command, Brooke Army Medical Center, AMEDD Center and School, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Sam Houston ISD, Officer Advanced Course 02-02, the Officer Basic Course, and Center Brigade all had one or more teams participating.





◀A Company, 232nd Medical Battalion soldiers raced for the cure on Saturday, April 13. The race is a fund-raising activity for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Many organizations walked or ran as a group while others chose to participate in the individual competitive race event.

San Antonio walks, jogs and runs to support cancer education, treatment and research



▼Maj. Gen. Kevin C. Kiley, commander, Army Medical Department Center and School, visits with the Haggray's Howlers, from the Officer Advanced Course 0202, at the Alamodome before the start of the race.



◀Maj.Gen. Kevin C. Kiley, commander, U.S. Army Medical Center and School and Fort Sam Houston is interviewed by a local television station prior to the start of the race. Kiley acknowledged the large Fort Sam Houston participation as an indication of the Army Medical Department's support for cancer education, research and treatment.



▲Col. Anne Compton, Barbara Biggerstaff, and Coletta Perugini, met with Medical Command, United States Army Garrison and Brooke Army Medical Center organizations at the FSH organizational race banners.

Fort Sam Houston presents the U.S. Army's Elite Ceremonial Units

Viva! Fiesta

Come and bring the whole family

- ♦Military equipment ♦Fireworks display ♦ Kiddie Carnival
- ♦Live music: Los Inocentes & Las Erendiras ♦Rock Climbing Wall
- ♦Food & drinks ♦Armored Adventure Van

- 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Post Opens to Public
(live entertainment, kiddie carnival, games, food booths)
- 4:30 p.m.** Golden Knights Aerial Acrobatics
- 5 p.m.** U.S. Army Drill Team
- 5:30 p.m.** Retreat
- 6 p.m.** Fiesta Royalty Arrives
- 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.**
Official Ceremony
Military Units Pass In Review
- 7 p.m.** 1st Cavalry
Horse Detachment
- 8 p.m.** 82nd Airborne Chorus
- 8:30 p.m.** 323rd Army Band
- 9 p.m.** Fireworks

MacArthur Pavilion, corner of Stanley and
Harry Wurzbach Roads, starting at 1 p.m.



THE U.S. ARMY DRILL TEAM



1ST CAVALRY
HORSE DETACHMENT



82nd AIRBORNE CHORUS



THE OLD GUARD
FIFE AND DRUM CORPS



THE GOLDEN KNIGHTS ARMY PARACHUTE TEAM

A *Prescription* For

Good Health


Orthodontic Screening

The Tri-Service Orthodontic Residency Program at Lackland Air Force Base will conduct screening exams for braces at Budge Dental Clinic, Fort Sam Houston, in May. Appointments can be scheduled for family members of active duty or retired personnel, who are 10 to 15 years old. Family members must be in good dental health and enrolled in DEERS. Patients selected for treatment must remain in the San Antonio area for a minimum of 2 years. Family members leaving the area prior to September 2004 will not be evaluated. Appointments will be limited and can only be made by telephone. Call 295-4677 between 7 - 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7, and request an orthodontic evaluation.

Preventive Dentistry Specialty Course seeks patients

The Preventive Dentistry Specialty Course (91E 330-X2) is seeking new patients who desire dental cleanings. Screening examinations will be conducted on May 8. This opportunity is open to military retirees and family members of retirees. The Preventive Dentistry Clinic is located in the Army Medical Department Center and School, and serves as a teaching institution to prepare students for duties as Preventive Dentistry Specialists. All treatment will be performed by students enrolled in the Preventive Dentistry Specialty course under the supervision of qualified instructor.

Prospective new patients must meet certain requirements to qualify. Patients must be at least 12 years of age, and if under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Elevators are not available, and patients must be physically able to navigate the stairwell to the third floor of the school. Appointments are generally scheduled to last approximately two to three hours, and several appointments any be necessary to complete treatment. To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 221-8982.



14 Americans die from asthma each day

More than 17 million Americans have been diagnosed with asthma. The disease affects between 5 and 10 percent of the world's population, and is the most common cause of chronic illness in children.

The term "asthma" comes from the Greek word for "panting."

The death rate from the disease is on the rise, possibly because of increased levels of air pollutants, poorly ventilated indoor air spaces, a rise in occupational exposure, and an increase in the number of people living in conditions of poverty.

What is asthma? With asthma, a person is unable to breathe easily because of constriction and swelling of the airways that transport air to the lungs.

First, the airways narrow when there is an allergen or irritant in the air. The narrowing is followed by an inflammatory response, where the airways swell and become filled with fluid. This produces a sticky mucus.

An asthmatic responds by wheezing, coughing, and struggling to breathe.

Medical experts believe that the airways of asthmatics are much more reactive to irritants than the airways of the average person.

Some other things that can cause asthma include allergic reactions to certain foods, viruses, insect bites, the effects of heartburn, and cold weather. Sometimes asthma attacks occur for no apparent reason.

About 50 percent of asthma cases begin in childhood. Half of these children stop having attacks by age 15, though in many of them the disease will flare up again later in life.

Childhood asthma is more common in boys, while after age 20 nearly three times as many women as men develop severe asthma.

Asthma seems to run in some families, but you can't get asthma from another person. Half of those with asthma have sinus problems. Pregnant women with asthma have a higher than average risk of early labor.

The elderly and urban poor are especially susceptible to severe asthma, and have the highest risk of dying from an asthma attack.

Many cases of adult asthma are due to occupational hazards such as exposure to chemicals at work. Asthma is the cause of nearly 50 percent of all cases of occupational lung disease.

The symptoms of asthma include coughing, wheezing when breathing out, and shortness of breath. Attacks may vary from occasional mild bouts of breathlessness to constant daily wheezing.

Symptoms of an acute asthma attack may develop over several days and are often worse at night. An attack begins with wheezing and rapid breathing and may progress to involve all the breathing muscles. The neck muscles may tighten and it may become difficult to talk. Without treatment, breathing may become shallow and the skin bluish.

You may begin to lose consciousness. At the end of an attack, there may be a cough that produces a thick mucus.

The inflammation continues even after the attack is over and may cause later attacks.

Asthma is usually worse at night and may contribute to sleeping problems and overall fatigue.

If you have been diagnosed with asthma and would like to learn how to better control it, contact your health-care provider.

Know the facts about colorectal cancer

- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States after lung cancer. Colorectal cancer (cancer of the colon or rectum) is second only to lung cancer in causing cancer-related deaths in the U.S. An estimated 148,300 new cases and 56,600 deaths from colorectal cancer are expected in 2002.
 - More than one-third of colorectal cancer deaths could be avoided if people over 50 had regular screening tests.
 - Most colorectal cancers begin as polyps. (Polyps are growths on the inner wall of the colon or rectum.)
 - People who have polyps or colorectal cancer do not always have symptoms, especially at first. Someone could have polyps or colorectal cancer and not know it. Screening tests are so important because they can find colorectal cancer early, when treatment works best. When colorectal cancer is detected in the earliest stage of the disease (Stage 1), the survival rate is 96 percent.
 - Colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Screening tests can help prevent colorectal cancer by finding pre-cancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer.
 - Risk increases as we age. The risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with age. In fact, most cases (92 percent) occur in people 50 and older.
 - Both men and women are at risk. Some people think that women are not at risk for colorectal cancer. However, both sexes may develop this cancer.
 - Medicare helps pay for colorectal cancer screening tests. People with Medicare Part B coverage who are age 50 or older are eligible for colorectal cancer screenings. However, in the case of colonoscopy, there is no age limit. Several different screening tests can be used to test for polyps or colorectal cancer. Each can be used alone. Sometimes they are used in combination with each other. The following screening tests are covered by Medicare:
 - Fecal Occult Blood Test or Stool Test - Covered once per year. You pay no coinsurance and no Part B deductible. A test you do at home using a test kit you get from your health care provider. You put stool samples on test cards, then return the cards to the doctor or a lab. This test checks for occult (hidden) blood in the stool.
 - Flexible Sigmoidoscopy - Covered once every 4 years. You pay 20 percent of the Medicare approved amount after the yearly Part B deductible. A test in which the doctor puts a short, thin, flexible, lighted tube into your rectum. The doctor checks for polyps or cancer in the rectum and lower third of the colon. Sometimes a flexible sigmoidoscopy is used in combination with a Fecal Occult Blood Test.
 - Colonoscopy High Risk Individuals - If you are at high risk for colorectal cancer, Medicare covers a colonoscopy or a barium enema every 2 years. You pay 20 percent of the Medicare approved amount after the yearly Part B deductible. (Your risk for colorectal cancer may be higher than average if you or a close relative had colorectal polyps or cancer, or if you have inflammatory bowel disease.)
 - Average Risk Individuals - If you are at average risk (i.e., not at high risk) for colorectal cancer, Medicare will cover a colonoscopy every 10 years. You pay 20 percent of the Medicare approved amount after the yearly Part B deductible. However, if you are at average risk and have had a covered flexible sigmoidoscopy, you must wait 4 years to be eligible for Medicare coverage of a colonoscopy. This test is similar to a flexible sigmoidoscopy, except the doctor uses a longer, thin, flexible, lighted tube to check for polyps or cancer in the rectum and the entire colon. During the test, the doctor can find and remove most polyps and some cancers.
 - Double Contrast Barium Enema - This test can substitute for a flexible sigmoidoscopy or for a colonoscopy. You pay 20 percent of the Medicare approved amount after the yearly Part B deductible. A test in which you are given an enema with a liquid called barium. The doctor takes x-rays of your colon. The barium allows the doctor to see the outline of your colon, to check for polyps or other abnormalities.
- Source: MEDICARE web site at <http://www.medicare.gov/Health/ColonCancer.asp> call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227, TTY/TDD: 1-877-486-2048 for the hearing and speech impaired) to speak to a Medicare Customer Representative.

Health Promotion Center

April Class Schedule

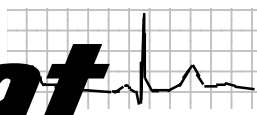
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Class	Date	Time
Aerobics	18	11 a.m. to noon
Back Pain	18	2 to 3:30 p. m.
Body Fat Testing	19	8 to 11 a. m.
Cholesterol and Lipids	22	9 to 11:30 a. m.
Aerobics	23	11 a.m. to noon
Diabetes Education	23	12:45 to 4 p. m.
Office Yoga	24	Noon to 1 p. m.
Osteoporosis	24	6 to 7 p. m.
Aerobics	25	11 a.m. to noon
Self Care and Health	25	1 to 3 p. m.
Tobacco Cessation "Readiness to Change"	25	2 to 4 p. m.
Breast Health	26	11 a.m. to noon
Weight Management – Session 1	29	1 to 2:30 p. m.
Aerobics	30	11 to noon
Diabetes Education	30	12:45 to 4 p. m.

Call the Health Promotion Center at 916-3352/5538 to register for all classes, except Diabetes Education, Back Pain, and Weight Management. To register for Diabetes Education call the Internal Medicine Clinic at 916-0840 (even if you are in Tricare Prime), select Option 2. To register for Back Pain call Physical Therapy at 916-1920. To register for Weight Management call Nutrition Care Division at 916-5525.



The BAMC Beat



Vol. 2, No. 4

April 2002

Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234

BAMC Referral Center improves continuity of care

**By Cleo Brennan
BAMC Public Affairs**

The newly opened BAMC Referral Center will eventually provide more continuity of care for TRICARE Prime and Standard beneficiaries as well as for TRICARE Plus beneficiaries enrolled for primary care at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Plans for the Referral Center started back in November, initially to assist BAMC TRICARE Plus patients in scheduling appointments for subspecialty care they were referred for by their primary

care provider. While BAMC TRICARE Plus enrollees obtain all their primary care at BAMC, the provisions of their enrollment do not guarantee access to subspecialty care at BAMC. When the necessary appointments are not available at BAMC, they have their choice of network providers in the civilian community. The BAMC command wants to help insure they get the services they require and to track the referrals.

"This is standard procedure in the civilian community, but in the past, in dealing with the military

community, civilian doctors didn't know who to get back to or how to reach them when they'd seen one of our beneficiaries. There was no easy way a doctor outside of our system could talk with a doctor on the inside," explained Dana Smith, Department of Health Plans Management (DHPM). That kept the results of those referrals from getting back into the patient records and to the requesting provider here.

"Now, they'll have just one number to contact. We're going to be that link," Smith added.

Thus, the Department of Health Plans Management established the BAMC Referral Center as the hub of a wheel to facilitate and promote communication and share information in a timely manner, according to Smith. It will also serve to identify additional training opportunities for graduate medical education, one element of BAMC's tri-fold mission. As the program develops further, it's planned for use in tracking referrals for TRICARE Prime and Standard patients who receive subspecialty care in the civilian

community.

To further improve patient services, the Referral Center is collocated with the TRICARE Service Center in the lower level.

"Now we have a one stop shop for all benefits information and claims—one set of doors for any beneficiary category. Hopefully, we will be able to provide a higher quality of care because we'll get the information back more quickly than ever before," Smith said.

The BAMC Referral Center operates from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 916-PLUS (7587) for more information on TRICARE Plus referrals.

Making their mark

With outstanding performance and commitment

Congratulations to the BAMC Volunteers of the Year for 2001-2002. These volunteers were competitively selected as Volunteer of the Year for their organization from

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| BAMC Public Service Award | among BAMC's 470 volunteers. BAMC Retiree |
| BAMC Group of the Year | Activities Group (BRAG) |
| Edna Mae Grossett | American Red Cross |
| Dr. Manuel De Los Santos | Lay Eucharistic Minister |
| Irene Orozco | Family Ministry Support Team |
| Masae Grutza | BAMC Auxiliary |
| Shawn Abel | Fisher House |
| Sue Nigro | BAMC Public Service Award |
| Lou Cottrell | |
| Ken and Gertrude Robb | |

Listeners



CARES Award

Norma Guerra

Irene Vargas

Laura Hansbrough, BAMC Volunteer Services, displays a certificate presented during a ceremony by BAMC Commander BG Daniel Perugini to mark 30 years of extraordinary government service.

Two Brooke Army Medical Center soldiers received awards at the 26th Annual Meeting of the Society of Armed Forces Medical Laboratory Scientists (SAFMLS), held March 17-21 March.

CPT Charla Gaddy, assistant chief, Microbiology, competed against company grade laboratory officers from the Air Force, Army and Navy and received the award for Outstanding Clinical Laboratory Scientist. SGT Michael Coombes, laboratory techni-

cian, Microbiology, received the award for best poster presentation at SAFMLS. His presentation was entitled "Prevalence of Antibiotic Use in a Military Community as Determined by Urinary Antibiotic Activity Testing". It was coauthored with COL Dave Dooley, Infectious Disease Service, Linda Harrison, Microbiology Section, Paula Gray, Preventive Medicine, and MAJ Tomas Ferguson, Dept. of Medicine, William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

Two BAMC psychologists, Dr. Charles Sherman and Dr. Kathleen Weiss received their diplomas from BAMC Commander BG Daniel Perugini, for completion this spring of their post-doctoral fellowships in the Department of Behavioral Medicine. Sherman completed a two-year fellowship in Behavioral Health Psychology and Weiss graduated from her two-year fellowship in Pediatric Psychology. Both programs offer intensive training in assessment, therapy, and consultation with other medical professionals, with parents, and with other family members.

Military Awards

Legion of Merit

COL Theresa Tominey

Meritorious Service Medal

CPT John Belew
MSG James Bryant
MSG Rik Guinther
SFC Joyce Austin
SFC Gwendolyn Southwell
SSG Kelli Ephran
SSG Alan Goss
SSG Harvey Player Jr.
SSG Marvin Smith Jr.
SSG Diana Washington

Army Commendation Medal

SGT Guy Celano
SGT Misty Scully
SPC Marc Johnson
SPC Jeremy Vincent

Army Achievement Medal

SGT Tyrone Bennett
SGT Michael Rotan
SPC Amira Breda
SPC Diana Camacho
SPC Matthew Frederiksen
SPC Shannon Garcia
SPC Jeremy Slack

Commuters Unite

The BAMC Provost Marshal Office is coordinating with the Via Metropolitan Bus Transportation Services to adjust the route on bus #17. The change will allow our BAMC & ISR Staff that uses the city transportation system to get off and be picked up at the I-35 entrance gate. A sufficient number of employees indicated interest to put a test system in place.

The current proposal is that the express bus #17, which travels from downtown San Antonio to Randolph Park and Ride at Starcrest, add BAMC's I-35 gate to it's route. The BAMC Shuttle Bus would meet the Via bus at I-35 and transport the users to the facility's entrances.

There is a possibility to offer more than one route schedule for BAMC commuters if there is sufficient need or interest. If you are interested in this type of service, please contact the BAMC Provost Marshal Office and provide the following information, by fax, phone or e-mail.

Name:
Telephone (BAMC #)
Zip Code:
Duty Hours:
Time you like to arrive at BAMC:
Time you would depart BAMC:
(210) 916-1007 Voice
(210) 916-3058 Fax
E-mail James L. Hobson Jr., on Outlook.



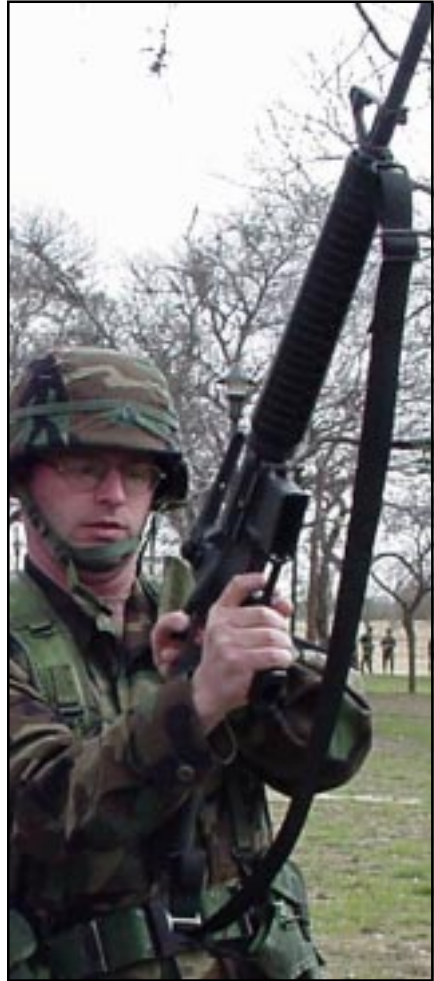
▲ Quarterly safety training gives Charlotte Trip chance to blow off a little 'steam', actually fire suppressant foam, BAMC employees get hands on training with a fire extinguisher.

Competing for GPRMC

SGT Guy Celano will represent Great Plains as NCO of the Year in the MEDCOM competition. You go Guy!!!

Brooke Army Medical Center served as host to the Great Plains Regional Medical Command competition for NCO and Soldier of the Year. Along with facing boards and fitness evaluation, candidates demonstrated their skill and knowledge through common task testing and their leadership perspective in answering the essay question:

How do you identify and measure the content of one’s character?



By SGT Guy Celano

One’s character can be identified and measured by the actions an individual consistently demonstrates on a daily basis. This means that the only way to analyze someone’s character is to become familiar with that person and develop a relationship. The type of relationship can be of a personal or professional nature as long as time is spent together.

Someone’s character is rooted in his or her system of values. Values are what someone considers to be important aspects of the way they choose to live their life and conduct themselves in social and personal situations. Everyone has a different set or system of values that they identify with. These sets of values are either developed by the individual or are passed on to them by family, society or other organizations that influence the individual.

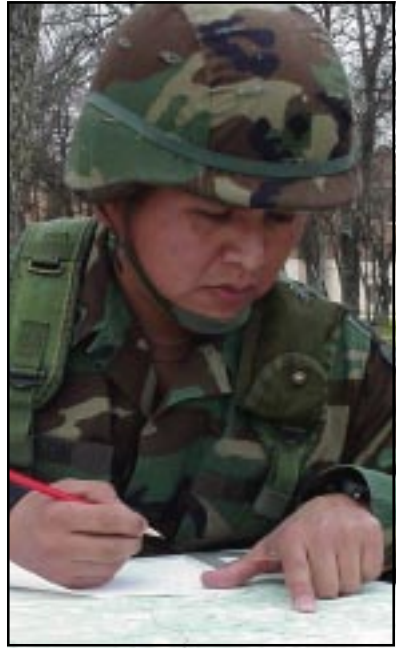
From a military standpoint, values have an important function in the success of missions, the care of junior soldiers and the development of leaders. Being a soldier in the United States Army not only allows someone to bring their own value system to the

profession but may allow for the addition of new values that may not have been considered in their civilian life. The Army has developed a set of values that is considered crucial to the effectiveness of the mission. The Army values are loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

In the Army it is easy to identify and measure someone’s character. On an NCOER the values are identified and measured in Part IV Values/NCO Responsibilities. During counseling sessions of junior enlisted soldiers the counselor should use the same criteria. In other personal and social relationships someone’s character is identified and measured by the type of reputation they created for themselves. A reputation is pretty much based on the same values that the Army has instilled in all of its members. We all have identified how much we can trust someone because we subconsciously measured their character based on past experiences with them.

Character is an asset that everyone must invest heavily in. It costs us nothing, yet can cost us everything. It has value.

SPC Marc Johnson earned the position of second runner-up in the Great Plains Soldier of the Year competition.



By SPC Marc Johnson

When a baby is born into this world of ours, he or she is like a clean rock slab. Every single day of its life, a new addition is added to the slab by its parents or guardians. Those additions build and strengthen its character. Human beings come in all shapes, sizes, and colors, and from all ethnic backgrounds. All human beings also have different views in regard to culture, lifestyle, and religion. All of these factors are

kneaded together and thrown onto the slab of life. These impressions are ultimately greatly influential in determining the world view a person chooses to create about themselves and the world they live in—about whether or not to follow a path of integrity and ethical conduct, or to follow a life of deceit and negativity.

Character is the combination of qualities or features that distinguish one person, group, or thing from another. The first evidence of a person’s character, which is also called “the first impression”, is the physical appearance. Whenever a soldier walks into a room with highly spit-shined boots, pressed uniform, and a regulation haircut, it sends a positive reinforcement to everyone around him or her that they are a squared-away soldier. A soldier cannot only be identified through their personal appearance, though, as this is referred to as “reading a book by its cover”. While looking good and having a positive outward appearance is needed, clearly, the more important aspect of character lies within the soldier. Not only is a good outward appearance a must, but is also a reflection of the soldier’s inner being—their thoughts, desires, and moral beliefs. The Army itself demonstrates that it places a high value on a soldier’s character, and is more concerned with

the inward soldier, by instilling the Army Values. These teach about respect and personal obligation to uphold a positive moral fiber.

As you begin to establish rapport with a person, and they express their values, attributes, likes, and dislikes towards you through discussions and various activities, you will begin to understand their character and world view. Once you begin to work alongside that person, their confidence, competency and enthusiasm on subjects related to work will be shown, and you as a co-worker will figure out how to deal with that person on a daily basis. A positive and motivating character are demanded to be an effective and influential leader in these circumstances.

Character is composed of a great many facets, each one delicately blending together to form the whole, unique to the individual who possesses it. Upbringing, as well as the circumstances of life, each lends to its development. However, a person’s character is an ongoing development. I believe the content of one’s character is easily judged by its fruits. A persons actions, attitudes, and outlook on life lend a quick glimpse into their inner being. From the polished appearance to the inward thoughts, character comes from within and is reflected outward.

SPC Olga Terekhina, Evans Army Medical Center, Fort Carson, Colo., is the Great Plains Soldier of the



Dr. Alice Gong, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatal Education at the University of Texas Health Science Center, BAMC guest speaker for Women’s History Month recalls about her personal family history and the influences that helped her advance.

Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley grips and grins with SGT Carlos Garza Jr., Department of Nursing, surrounded by Garza’s 91W students taking EMT training. Tilley presented his personal coin to Garza, toured BAMC and talked with soldiers. He answered questions about career progression, pay and benefits, regulatory changes and their prospects for a future in the Army.

Photos by Cleo Brennan

Hindsight, foresight, insight

CSM Russell views final hitch . . .

BAMC CSM Kenneth Russell recently raised his hand in the solemn oath of reenlistment one last time. He shares his viewpoint of nearly 30 years service to pass on a legacy to those who follow about the value of serving.

“I’ve always looked for something in my life and work to be enthusiastic about, especially after my first tour,” Russell said. He added that during his first hitch, as a tanker, he was always getting out.

“I didn’t like it, not really, but I was interviewing the Army,” Russell looked around for something else he’d like to do if he stayed in.

“Even when I didn’t like it, it would reward hard work and commitment to your team. I was a pretty good soldier and my unit liked me. They made me feel like I was important,” he said.

He credits good sergeants with making him study and learn. When he reenlisted to become a combat medic, he was ready for learning and did extremely well.

One very attractive part of the Army for Russell was the friendly competitive atmosphere that it offers.

“The Army is the kind of sport where you lose if everybody doesn’t finish together. It’s about being ready, and learning what readiness really means,” Russell said.

“I’ve had a great career and it hasn’t been one where I’ve compromised standards or my values to do it. I think it’s important to be honest in all that you do. That’s the trust behind soldiering. Don’t come lie to me. I don’t have to love you like that, I don’t have to forgive that, and oh, by the way, I can’t win a war with that,” he added.

Russell recalls the focus of the first Sergeant Major of the Army who wanted to answer the soldier’s question “Why—Why do things have to be this way?” and to change the Army’s mindset to an attitude that a soldier has the right to ask the question and have it answered.

“Back in the day, it was cultural, from our leadership style, before NCOES (Noncommissioned Officer Education System), before leadership training was formalized. A soldier was a radical if he asked the question why,” Russell explained. ‘Don’t ask me why—just do it, soldier,’ was the prevailing attitude.

“I try to create an environment where soldiers will not only want to ask it, but will know it’s their right to ask it. Those who have the question ‘Why?’ answered then have purpose for what they do, and motivation.

“The legacy I hope to pass on is every soldier’s sense that they are the Army—that it’s theirs and they gotta take ownership. More than anything else, soldiers always have to be focused on learning something well enough to be able to teach somebody else, and, oh, by the way, to follow through with the teaching. One of my big accomplishments is the 30 years I have spent teaching soldiers,” Russell concluded.

JJ Deuel, President of AFGE Local 104, and Fredna White, 10th District Women’s Coordinator for AFGE, talk with BAMC employees about the American Federation of Government Employees during a “Lunch and Learn” session in the Dining Facility conference room.



Fort Freebies

All Freebies are published on a first come, first serve basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended solely for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, contact Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail it to: news.leader@amedd.army.mil or fax it to 221-1198. Ensure your military/Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appears on request.



For Sale: Buffet storage, dark wood, country style, four top drawers and four bottom cabinets, \$100. Twin size mattress, box spring and frame, used as guest bed, \$60. Call Jennifer Gilbrech at 221-0237 or 885-6214.

For Sale: Epson Photo PC 550 color digital camera, full package includes Sierra Imaging Image Expert software, compatible with most Windows OS, works great, upgraded to new camera, \$45. Call 643-3172, leave message.

For Sale: Queen-sized sleeper sofa and matching loveseat, \$300. Call evenings at 653-3794.

For Sale: Full size tan sleeper sofa, and sleeper love seat, \$100 and \$50, respectively. Couch, \$25. Fruit slicer/juicer, \$10. Hamilton Beach two speed food processor, \$50. Rival meat/cheese slicer, \$30. Electric recliner with new motor, \$200. Call Jamie at 212-4481.

For Sale: Six-week old Schnauzer puppies, females with first shots, wormed, tails and dewclaws docked, \$250. Call 408-6446.

For Sale: Two area carpets, bound, medical maroon in color, will fit in quarters on Staff Post, Artillery, or Dickman area, in very good condition, approximately 19' x 14' and 15' x 14.' Also, 1987 Cutlass Supreme...can be seen at Lemon Lot. Call 212-7561.

For Sale: Kenmore automatic 3-speed washer, 4 years old, just off warranty, and an older dryer still in excellent condition, \$375. Call (210) 826-3141.

For Sale: 64" Phillips/Magnavox TV, \$2,250 includes 2-year maintenance agreement, surround sound system. Call 846-1054.

For Sale: 2000 Ford Ranger XLT S-cab truck, excellent condition, \$11,500, six cyl. (3.0L engine), a/c, cruise, tilt, 17 K miles, Ford Roadside service and maintenance. Call 846-1054.

For Sale: Two girls bedroom sets, white Formica, use individually or together as bunk set, \$1,200 for both or separate one set \$600, one set \$700, four drawer dresser, \$20, small dresser, \$15, Little Tykes boat sandbox, \$25. Luggage carrier, \$75. Sleeper sofa and loveseat, beige, \$700. Blue recliner, needs repairs, \$50. Metal four-drawer filing cabinet, \$25. all 657-7433.

For Sale: Three year old Saturn manufactured home, four bed, two bath, formal dinning, 2,060 sq. ft. on two acres, large metal garage 30' by 40' and much more, located in Marion/Seguin area, Marion ISD, close to Randolph AFB, only \$95,000. Call for and appointment at (830) 914-2698.

For Sale: Fiberglass truck topper (silver) for mini-truck. Call Steve, 820-0530, evenings.

For Sale: 1994 Ford Ranger ext. cab pick up, 130,400 miles, burgundy exterior, grey interior, 5 speed, 4 cyl., AM/FM cassette, excellent gas saving, commuter/work truck, \$4,500 firm. Call (830) 914-2698.

For Sale: Five-year-old Schult manufactured home, three bed, two bath, den, two dinning areas, large kitchen with island, 2,015 sq. ft. on half acre lot, two-car garage, storage bldg. Central heat/air, 14' x 14' deck with cover, and more. 210 Clear Springs Drive, off Highway 46 between I35 and Seguin, \$86,675. Call Yvone, (830) 625-8061.

For Sale: Washer, dryer will sell separate, \$100 each. Call (210) 624-9570 or (210) 415-1516.

For Sale: 1974 Bug good car, very original, \$2,500 obo. Call 221-5688 or (830) 393-2239. May be seen at Lemon Lot.

Free to a Good Home: One-and-a-half year old male cat. Neutered, front claws removed, playful. Call 354-4997 after 5 p.m.

Moving Sale: Multi-family moving sale, Saturday, April 20, at 405 Crestwind Drive, in Windcrest.

Career Clips



The Army Career and Alumni Program office provides numerous services to eligible people in transition including job assistance. Information on these and other positions is available to ACAP customers in the ACAP office, Bldg. 2264 or call 221-1213.

Customer Service Representative - San Antonio. Provides customer service support to the organization by obtaining and verifying the accuracy of order information in a timely manner. Assist customers by ensuring orders contain all materials necessary to accomplish their security objectives.

Senior Human Health Risk Assessor - San Antonio. Serves as assessor for policy issues evaluating hazardous waste sites. Provides technical leadership and mentoring of junior personnel; review assessments prepared by PRPs, evaluate EPA compliance; analysis and review at state, federal, and regional levels.

Item Processing Clerk - San Antonio. Requires knowledge of high-speed check clearing procedures and operations, accounting procedures, custody control standards and Bank procedures, and check clearing skills, and ability to reconcile at summary level using automated systems.

Field Investigator - San Antonio. Conducts interviews with diverse people on behalf of federal, state, and local governments to determine the suitability and qualifications of individuals to hold positions of trust and responsibility. Meets challenging deadline and write thorough and active investigative reports.

¿Que Pasa?



Community events

Asian Pacific Islander Luncheon tickets on sale now

Asian Pacific Islander Luncheon, May 1, NCO Club, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$8 per person. Tickets for Asian Pacific opening ceremony luncheon are now on sale. For tickets call the Equal Employment Office at 221-0431.

Vikki Carr and San Antonio Symphony Pops Concert, April 19, 20

A Pops Concert featuring Vikki Carr and the San Antonio Symphony, David Mairs, conductor, will be held April 19 and 20 at the Majestic Theatre, 224 East Houston Street. Tickets range from \$16 to \$58 and may be purchased at the box office, 554-1010 or Ticketmaster 224-9600.

Celebrate Earth Day at the S.A. Zoo

The San Antonio Zoo, in conjunction with other area conservation organization is hosting Earth Day 2002 on April 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For the regular price of Zoo admission, visitor can enjoy learning tips to reduce waste, reduce pollution and conserve the Earth's limited resources. For more information call Jordan at (210) 734-7184, ext. 106.

Cash and carry sale of Non-appropriated Funds property, April 24

DoD ID cardholders make plans to attend the NAF property on sale April 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 4191. Cash and checks with picture identification accepted for payment. All sales are final. Property sold "as is, where is." Items available for sale include used refrigerators, used microwave ovens, used televisions, used curtains, used bed spreads, used carpet tile, used lamps with shades, used tents, used desk chairs, used computer with monitor and keyboard, used lounge easy chairs and more. For more information or directions, please call the MWR Warehouse at 221-4449 or 221-4950.

Army Suggestion Program Luncheon, April 25

A luncheon honoring the Fort Sam Houston military and civilian suggestors of the year and Fort Sam Houston evaluator of the year will be held on April 25, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. Cost is \$9.50 or \$8.50 and tickets may be obtained from the following: Robert Ruiz, FSH at 221-2960; Debbie Jones, MEDCOM at 221-7036; Barbara Landry, BAMC at 916-5116; and Connie Jo Purchis, AMEDDC&S at 221-7590. Tickets will not be available for purchase at the door.

Connie Stevens will be at AAFES, April 26 and 27

Introducing "Forever Spring," the Beauty System, Connie Stevens will be signing autographs at the Fort Sam Houston Main Exchange on April 26 and 27 from noon to 6 p.m.

15th Annual Bowie Street Blues Concert, April 28

The Institute of Texan Cultures will hold the 15th Annual Bowie Street Blues Concert April 28 from noon to 7 p.m. The concert will feature the best blues artists, traditional and contemporary that Texas has to offer. The Institute of Texas Cultures is located at 801 Bowie Street, San Antonio. Food and beverages will be sold. No ice chests or pets allowed on grounds. For information call (210) 458-2300

Fort Sam Houston Post-Wide Garage Sale, May 4

Make plans to attend the post-wide Garage Sale, May 4, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center parking lot, Bldg. 2797 Stanley Road. DoD ID cardholders are invited to display goods for sale. Also on-post residents will not be permitted to sell from their yards/homes. Participants will set up in the parking lot across from the Roadrunner Community

Center, using their own tables. Tables are available for rent at the Outdoor Equipment Center, 221-5224 or 221-5225. Registration required by May 2. For information call Emily Freeman 221-2926 or 221-2523.

Community Awareness Fair, May 4

The Ella Austin Community Center, 1023 North Pine Street, will host the Third Annual Community Awareness Fair will be held on May 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A variety of social service agencies and organizations will be available to the public. For information call Ray Teveni or Veronica Gonzales at (210) 224-2351.

The University of the Incarnate Word 1st Annual Freedom Run, May 4

A Freedom Run will be held at the University of the Incarnate Word on May 4 at 8 a.m. Pre-registration will be held from 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. on April 29-May 3 in the UIW Wellness Center. Pre-registration fees are as follows: individuals- \$12, students, employees, alumni, and sponsors- \$4, and for a family or team of four \$38. Race day fees are individuals \$15, and \$40 for a family or team of four. For registration information, call 829-6001. Proceeds benefit the S.A. Education Partnership Endowment Foundation, the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund, and the Endowed Scholarship Fund at the university.

Black and Gold Scholarship Ball, May 11

The Phi Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. will host its annual Black and Gold Scholarship Ball on May 11 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston NCO Club. Tickets for the black tie gala are \$25 and may be obtained by calling Lt. Col. Felton Brannon at 221-0690 or e-mail brannonf@samhou.5tharmy.army.mil.

Volunteers needed

BAMC needs Partner in Healing volunteers

BAMC seeks volunteers to provide in-house patient transport. Nurses rely on the patient transport program to stay on the wards and focus on quality patient care. Join the kind and dedicated team of volunteers who provide this important service to the patients. Call 916-5083 to become a BAMC Partner in Healing.

Calling Cole High School parents

The Cole High School Cougar Pride Club needs parent volunteers to fill offices and committee chairperson vacancies for the 2002-2003 School Year. You can make a difference in you child's junior/senior high school experience by volunteering your time. Volunteers re needed for everything from merchandise to bake sale to finances. To volunteer, call Karen Bagg at 212-5359.

The proposed slate of new officers will be presented to the public at the Cougar's Band Concert on May 3. Voting for the new offices will be held at C-Awards ceremony on May 6.

Make a difference, volunteer and vote!

Talented soldiers needed

The U.S. Army is looking for highly talented soldier for the USA Express: The Army's Premier Touring Show Band, a high energy 7 to 9 person top 40 variety show \band produced by the U.S. Army Entertainment Division. The band is comprised of active duty military musicians and singers chosen for their outstanding musical ability, versatility and ability to entertain. Soldiers selected must be fully deployable worldwide.

The USA Express is preparing for its next tour, which will report for rehearsal at Fort Belvoir, Va. on May 20 and tour Southwest Asia beginning June 2. The tour will be for two

months To schedule an audition, call Ben Paniagua at 221-7250.

In the classroom

Seminar for Office Professionals, April 22

Celebrate National Secretaries' Day and join the seminar for office professionals April 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Old San Francisco Steak House Crystal Room, 10223 Sahara. Cost is \$85 Government credit cards accepted. To register, call (210) 520-3055 or e-mail susan78238@aol.com.

Transition Service Briefing, May 14

Soldiers whose Date Initially Entered Military Service is on or after August 1, 1986, should attend a briefing on the Career Status Bonus, Reduced Retirement Plan and Thrift Savings Plan. Transition Services offers monthly briefings in Bldg. 2267 at 9 a.m. on the following dates: May 14, June 11, July 16, Aug. 13 and Sept. 17, 2002. To attend a briefing or obtain more information, call 221-2467 or 221-0936.

Fiesta San Antonio

Fiesta 2002 Parade seats available now

Make plans now to attend the Fiesta 2002 Battle of Flowers Parade on April 26. The Cole High School Cougar Band will be marching in this parade. Tickets are also available for the Fiesta Flamebeau (night) Parade on April 28. Seats are \$7 and are located along the 100 block of East Commerce Street between Soledad and St. Mary's streets. For information call Robyn Meilinger at 281-9178.

S. A. State School's Country & Western Gala, April 19

Dinner, dance and live auction at the Jersey Lilly Hospitality Center located at Pearl Brewery, 312 Pearl Parkway. Dinner 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dance music by Charlie Castleman "Bimbo & Borderline" 8 p.m. to midnight. Silent auction bids start at 7 p.m. Live auction bids start at 10 p.m. Cost is \$15. For information call Orlando Cisneros at (210) 885-4606 or Roger Rubio at 691-8936 or Lucia or Grace at 531-3728. Event benefits persons with mental retardation who live at the S.A. State School.

18th Annual Fiesta de Tejas, April 19

A fun family event, Fiesta de Tejas is held at the Health Science Center, 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, April 19, 3 p.m. to midnight. Bring a new child's book and get \$1 off adult ticket. Presale tickets \$6, at the gate \$8, children 6 and under free, adults 65 and older free, and military discounts with military I.D.

S.A. State School's Family Fun Fiesta, April 20

Check out the craft bazaar, rummage sale, entertainment and food booths at the San Antonio State School, 6711 South New Braunfels, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Event is free and the public is invited. For information call Lucia or Grace at 531-3728. Event benefits persons with mental retardation who live at the S.A. State School.

6th Annual Kiss Krawfish Festival, April 28

The Sunken Garden Theatre is the place to be for this event, noon to 10 p.m. Crawfish straight out of Louisiana along with a wide variety of foods, entertainment and more. Presale tickets \$10, at the gate \$12. Event is sponsored by 99.5 Kiss Radio and benefits Boysville.

Otras Cosas

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity members meeting

Calling all members of the Phi Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. to meet the second Saturday of each month, except May meeting, which will be held May 4 at 2 p.m. at the Claude E. Black Community Center, 2805 East Commerce Street, San Antonio. For more information call Lt. Col. Felton Brannon at 221-0690 for e-mail brannonf@samhou.5tharmy.army.mil.

Enjoy a \$1 dinner at the USO

The USO offers a \$1 dinner every Saturday at 6 p.m. Enjoy a great "home cooked" meal and then explore what downtown San Antonio has to offer or take advantage of free pool and foosball tables, movies, game room and family room. The USO is open to all military personnel and their families Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 9 to 5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. For more information, call the USO at 227-9373.